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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT				
SUBJECT	Strike of Shipyard Workers at	DATE DISTR.	ll Se	11 September 1953		
	Warnemuende	NO. OF PAGES	1			
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO	. RD			
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		50X1-HUM		
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 1. A general strike in sympathy with the East Berlin strikers commenced at 0700 hrs on 18 June, and lasted until the night of 19 June. Within a very short time, 3,000 Soviet troops and over 200 VP troops, consisting of several officers from the VP School in Rostock were placed on board all ships undergoing repair, and at all strategic positions in the yard. A machine gun post was set up at the entrance to the yard and, up to 20 June, all sentries, as well as the machine gun post, were still in position.
- 2. Minister Bernd Weinberger, in charge of the Generaldirektion Schifffhahrt, was summoned by telephone to Warnemuende on 18 June to pacify the strikers, but he had no success. Throughout the strike the demonstrators showed only passive resistance, except for the tearing down of Party notices and posters. A few shots were fired into the air by the troops, but as far as can be ascertained there were no casualties.
- 3. About 60 arrests were made on 19 June, and amongst those arrested was a 30-year old welder, the son of a man called Fritz Dahlem, and, according to rumor, he was probably shot on 20 June as an example to the other demonstrators. Workers were forced by the Soviets to return to work on 20 June, but now show very little interest in their employment. Minor acts of sabotage, mainly directed against electrical installations and piping on board the reparations ships are still being carried out, as well as general passive resistance.
- 4. The SSD has introduced large numbers of informers as welders, firemen etc., on board the ships to help trace the saboteurs.

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